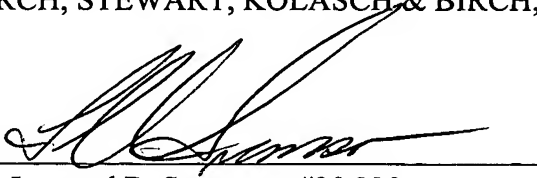


If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 or under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Respectfully submitted,

BIRCH, STEWART, KOLASCH & BIRCH, LLP

By



Leonard R. Svensson, #30,330

LRS/lmt  
2039-0156P

P.O. Box 747  
Falls Church, VA 22040-0747  
(714) 708-8555

Attachment: VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

A paragraph has been added before the paragraph beginning on page 1, line 1.

IN THE CLAIMS:

The claims have been amended as follows:

3. [Use of a hyaluronic acid derivative for the preparation of biomaterials] A method for the treatment of scarring on the skin which comprises applying to the treatment area a pharmaceutical composition or biomaterial comprised of at least one hyaluronic acid derivative, optionally in association with at least one additional pharmacologically or biologically active compound.
5. [Use] The method according to claim 3 [or 4], wherein said scarring is normotrophic scarring.
6. [Use] The method according to [any one of claims 3-5] claim 3, wherein the hyaluronic acid derivative is an ester of hyaluronic acid wherein a part or all of the carboxy functions are esterified with alcohols of the aliphatic, aromatic, arylaliphatic, cycloaliphatic, and heterocyclic series.
7. [Use] The method according to [any one of claims 3-5] claim 3, wherein the derivative of hyaluronic acid is an autocross-linked ester of hyaluronic acid wherein part or all of the carboxy groups are esterified with the alcoholic functions of the same polysaccharide chain or other chains.
8. [Use] The method according to [any one of claims 3-5] claim 3, wherein the hyaluronic acid derivative is a cross-linked compound of hyaluronic acid wherein part or all of the

carboxy groups are esterified with polyalcohols of the aliphatic, aromatic, arylaliphatic, cycloaliphatic heterocyclic series, generating cross-linking by means of spacer chains.

9. [Use] The method according to [any one of claims 3-5] claim 3, wherein the hyaluronic acid derivative is an hemiesters of succinic acid or a heavy metal salt of the hemiester of succinic acid with hyaluronic acid or with partial or total esters of hyaluronic acid.
10. [Use] The method according to [any one of claims 3-5] claim 3, wherein the hyaluronic acid derivative is an O-sulphated or O/N-sulphated derivative.
11. [Use] The method according to [any one of claims 3-5] claim 3, wherein the hyaluronic acid derivative is an amide derivative of hyaluronic acid.
12. [Use] The method according to any one of claims 3 and 5-11, wherein the hyaluronic acid derivative is in the form of a gel, guide channel, sponge, non-woven fabric, thread, perforated or non-perforated membrane, microsphere, nanosphere, gauze pad or a combination thereof.
13. [Use] The method according to any one of claims 3[-12] and 5-11, wherein the pharmacologically or biologically active substance is an antibiotic, growth factor, antimicotic, antimicrobial, antiviral agent, disinfectant, phospholipid or anaesthetic.